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LIFE

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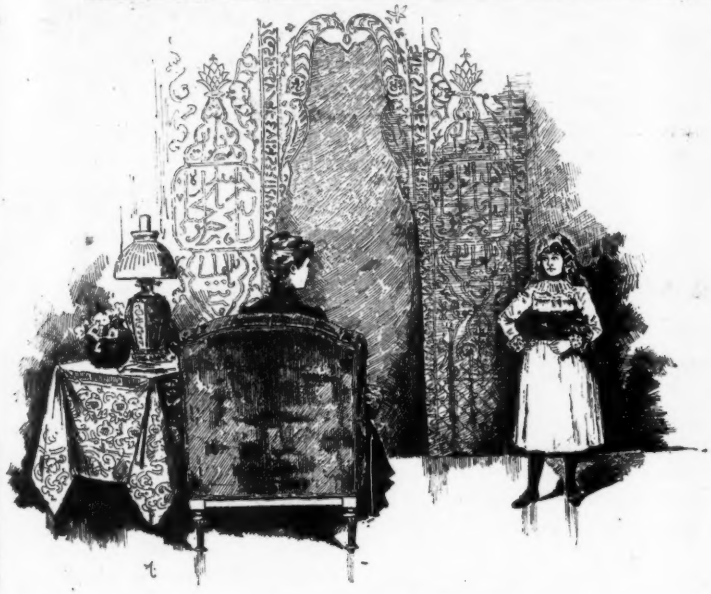


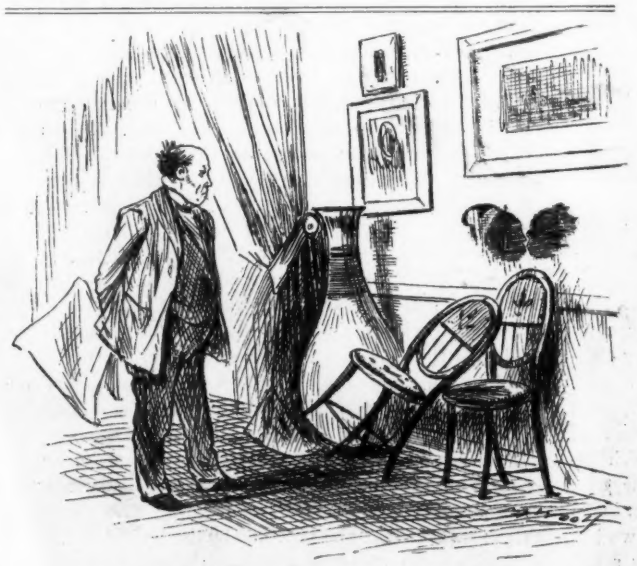
A MATTER OF ACOUSTICS.

"WHERE WERE YOU, SALLY, WHEN YOU HEARD ME CALL YOU FOR DINNER?"

"ACROSS THE STREET."

"AND WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOU DIDN'T HEAR ME CALL YOU TO GO TO BED?"

"IN THE CORNER."



YOU SEE THE EVENING WAS VERY WARM AND THEY MUST HAVE LEANED THEIR HEADS AGAINST THE WALL-PAPER.

QUESTIONING.

O MOUTH, as sweet as any morn in May!
O lips, as rosy as the sunlight glow!
If I should speak the words which struggle so,
What answer would you give to me to-day?
Would that white breast as softly heave, I pray,
The gentle breath as calmly come and go
When I had spoken? Surely, you must know
Already everything I have to say!
Yet, maybe, telling it, I might obtain
From your sweet influence some grace of speech
To make my words not altogether vain:
Some gentle phrase I learned from you might reach
Your tender heart; and softly entering, make
Dear Love, who lies half-sleeping there, awake.

C. B. Going.

AN EFFECTIVE THREAT.

NEW YORKER: No, sir, I have no money for you.

DIRTY TRAMP: Well, I don't see nothing fer me ter do but drown myself.

NEW YORKER: I can't help that.

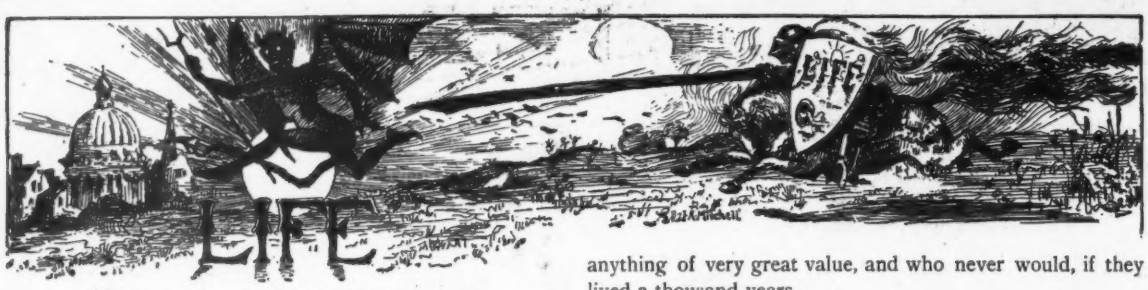
DIRTY TRAMP: All right. Where's the reservoir?

NEW YORKER: Here! Take this dollar and live.

THE MISERIES OF POVERTY.

DR. BLUFF: You stick too closely to your desk, Mr. Borrowit. I recommend you to buy a pair of Indian clubs.

POOR JACK: But I live in the city, Doctor. It would take all my salary to rent a room big enough to swing them in!



"While there's Life there's Hope."

VOL. XIV. AUGUST 15, 1889. No. 346.

28 West Twenty-third Street, New York.

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IF Dr. Brown-Sequard has really discovered something that will protract human existence in old men, it is rather a curious discovery than one of very great importance. By the time we have lived out our threescore years and ten —if we are protracted so long—we certainly ought to have got our life's work in such a forward state as to have earned the right to peg out at the first convenient summons. There is altogether too much dissatisfaction with death, particularly with death that comes in due season, when we have served our time and are about at the end of our usefulness. What the world needs is not so much to defer timely demise as to learn to look upon death more cordially; to accept it as an honorable and natural way out of what must be a tedious and wearisome struggle at the best. The chore of living is quite enough to undertake without our burdening ourselves with the intolerable fear of dying in the bargain. If we die and that is the end of us, only those who are exceptionally fortunate and in circumstances of peculiar comfort should care to have their string spun out beyond the normal length; and if death is only a transfer, why should we care to take extraordinary means to defer our experience of what is to come?

The young have no business to die. If they are youthful, they represent the investment of a deal of trouble and a considerable outlay of cash, for which they ought to make due return before they take their leave. If they are older, they have probably incurred responsibilities which they must not shirk, and assumed burdens which they should carry honestly through to the end of their course. But there is time enough in life as it is for the bearing of burdens. As a general rule, it is not necessary to borrow the vital juices of puppies or of guinea pigs to gain time enough to finish important work. Here and there there is a Gladstone or a Bismarck or a Brown-Sequard, perhaps, whose continued existence seems indispensable to certain phases of the world's progress. But if even these cases are all that they seem, they are exceptional. It is not such men, we wager, who will want to live on so much as men who have never done anything of very great value, and who never would, if they lived a thousand years.

Nature manages these things better than these nineteenth century magicians. She knows when to let us go, and, with proper deference to her laws, we may live, barring accidents, as long as is good for us. If we cannot get out what there is in us by the meat, drink, pie, tobacco and beans, we can never get it out at all. Certainly squirting pulped puppy into our veins won't go very far to help us.

* * *

NEVERTHELESS, it occurs in practice that we take different views of these matters at thirty-five than we do at seventy. Old men often find that they are so used to this world that they dislike extremely to trade it for one where their habits may be of no value to them and their money is not legal tender. Without doubt, if Dr. Brown-Sequard's elixir is a good one, there will be no lack of demand for it, and, whether it is any good or not, we shall probably soon see it hermetically sealed up in dollar packages and advertised in LIFE.

* * *

THE *Sun* shows great energy in combatting the new process of capital punishment by electricity. We don't think that electricity is such a wonderfully handy thing to kill a man with, but it must be poor, indeed, if it is not as good as hanging. Why the *Sun* is so stirred up we fail to see, unless it is really loath to lose the news there is in hangings. It even goes so far as to affect to be disgusted with Brown, the electrician, for proposing or consenting to take part in anything so brutal as an execution. Which is as absurd as its old-time attack on Grover Cleveland for performing a duty entrusted to him by law when he was Sheriff of Erie County.

* * *

IT is to be hoped that war will not be declared between the City of New York and the City of Chicago. As each city has gritted its teeth and insisted that it is going to have the exhibition in 1892, no other issue seems possible. LIFE is always ready to use its ingenuity to further the ends of harmony, and therefore suggests a way out of the difficulty. On a fixed day let the Mayor of New York and the Mayor of Chicago each with a gorgeous retinue, proceed to some neutral city, say Buffalo or Cleveland. There in the presence of a sufficient number of witnesses and under such safeguards as shall prevent any juggling with the coin, let them toss a dollar, to be provided by the United States Mint, and thus settle the disputed claim, it being understood in advance that the loser shall turn in and work for the success of the enterprise with all its energy.

Penelope Peachblow: How do you do, Mrs. Plantaganet?
Mrs. Plantaganet: You must excuse me, but I do not think we have ever met.
Penelope Peachblow: Yes; last week at Mrs. Westerley's.
Mrs. Plantaganet (with increasing coolness): You have the advantage of me.
Penelope Peachblow: I think I have, Mrs. Plantaganet, in eyesight, memory, and manners. Good afternoon.

SHIPWRECKED BUT SAFE.

JACK TAR: We ain't so very fur from land, Jim! There's been a yacht along here lately.

JIM: How do you know?

JACK TAR: See all them champagne corks.

SHE: As the Vassar girl said to the West Point cadet.

HE: What was that?

SHE: It's a long time between ice-creams.

THE CITY CAT IN THE COUNTRY.

"This quiet is refreshing." "A snake!" "Where is it?"

Before

OUR FRESH AIR FUND

After

Checks for Fresh Air Fund should be drawn to the order of LIFE.

THIS week we print a view of our village, showing the space between the cottages. It is used chiefly for a playground, as indeed are the whole nine acres belonging to the estate. We have recently put up several swings for the entertainment of the multitude. A few hammocks also dangle from occasional trees, but these are less suited to the active habits of our guests. By keeping the children out-of-doors as much as possible during their two weeks' visit, and by giving them plenty of wholesome food, which to many of them is a novelty, we intend to send them back to the city refreshed in body and spirit.

There are many thousands of them who need it.

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Dorothy Herbert	5.00
The Shining Lights (King's Daughters, Wyoming, N. J.)	28.67
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Entertainment by the Guests of the Scarboro Hotel, Long Beach, N. J. Mock Trial of a Breach of Promise Suit	30.00
Proceeds of Entertainment at Hotel Breslin, Lake Hopatcong, N. J., by the guests	100.00
W. W.	10.00
Mrs. John Wallace	10.00
Sellar and Marie Bullard	12.00
Phillips Ward Page	5.00
F. A. Reynolds	25.00
Collection made at a Sunday evening Service, at the Belle Ayr, Ulster Summit, Catskill Mountains	10.12
Manitou	20.00
Proceeds of a Fair at the Peters Cottage, Pequot House, New London, Conn., given by Emily Norrie, Lucette Banker, Harry Dolly, Lotte Miller, Charley and Harry Ogden, Rebecca and Austen Riggs, Milly Appleton, Clarence and Julien Day, Freda and Charley Mitchell, Cornelius Pinkney, Florence Palmer, Eline Shirley	161.00
C. E. B.	4.00
M. P. Greene,	10.00
M. C. B.	20.00
"Three Roasted Orangites"	15.00
Collected for Fresh Air Fund by Helen Hanby, of Pottsville, Pa., and Mary Bearer, of Conshohocken, Pa.	3.25
Harry Warner S.	5.00
M. D. Kimball	10.00
M. N. A.	4.00
H. T. S.	2.00
A Vow, £15	73.05
For Her Sake, M. E. R.	5.00
Hearts	12.00
Mother	10.00
B. B.	5.00
H.	2.00
G. W.	10.00
M. R.	2.00
G. H. K.	20.00
John Stevens	4.00
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ANOTHER VIEW OF LIFE'S VILLAGE FOR CHILDREN, SHOWING THE BACKS OF THE COTTAGES.

BOOKISHNESS

MIDSUMMER BOOKS AND PLEASURE.

IN the very heart of midsummer there are few books that you care to read. For now is the season of rest from all books which are read for instruction. As for reading to be amused—the time that you have for amusement is now spent in the open air. The poetry and the romance of living are in the mountains, or on the lakes and the sea. Why should you read a lyric in summer, when you can take a canoe and paddle up a shady stream, with the lily-pads crowding around the bow, and the alders and birches leaning toward you, while some bird along the shore pipes a song for you to the very music and rhythm which Shelley and Keats once caught?

Or if you scorn lyrics, but love adventure, why should you

read a romance of Africa or the Wild West, when you can within six hours of the city find very respectable mountains —out of reach of the mob of summer boarders—where you can climb for hours along winding trails, or strike out into the unbroken woods, along moss-covered ridges and over rocky summits—far away from the haste and noise of the market, in the clean air of the high levels. You can do this in forty-eight hours, and return to work, feeling that "you have had a little romance in yours," prosaic as the rest of the week may be. And you are not too old at forty, or fifty, or sixty for that kind of romance. You can roll off a decade of years for every thousand feet of altitude, and on a mountain summit you are, like *Faust*, a very young man again, with the world to win and hope to do it.

* * *

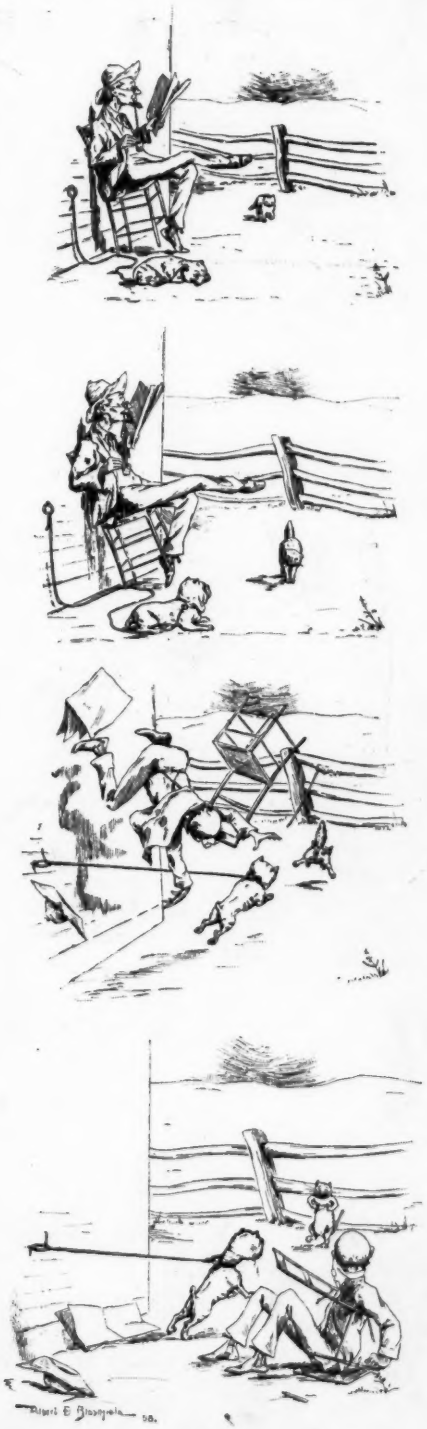
BUT there may be a rainy evening in camp, a cool night in the city, a quiet hour on boat or train when you want a book for company. There are few among those recently published that one may recommend for such an hour with any great confidence in pleasing you. It would not be hard to pick out a score of old friends for these occasions, but you also know them and keep a corner for them in your trunk. Still among the new books you may find pleasure in Burroughs's "Indoor Studies," Mrs. Burnett's "Pretty Sister of José," Hopkinson Smith's "White Umbrella in Mexico," the replies to Prosper Merimée's letters, entitled "An Author's Love," or the translation of Balzac's "Seraphita."

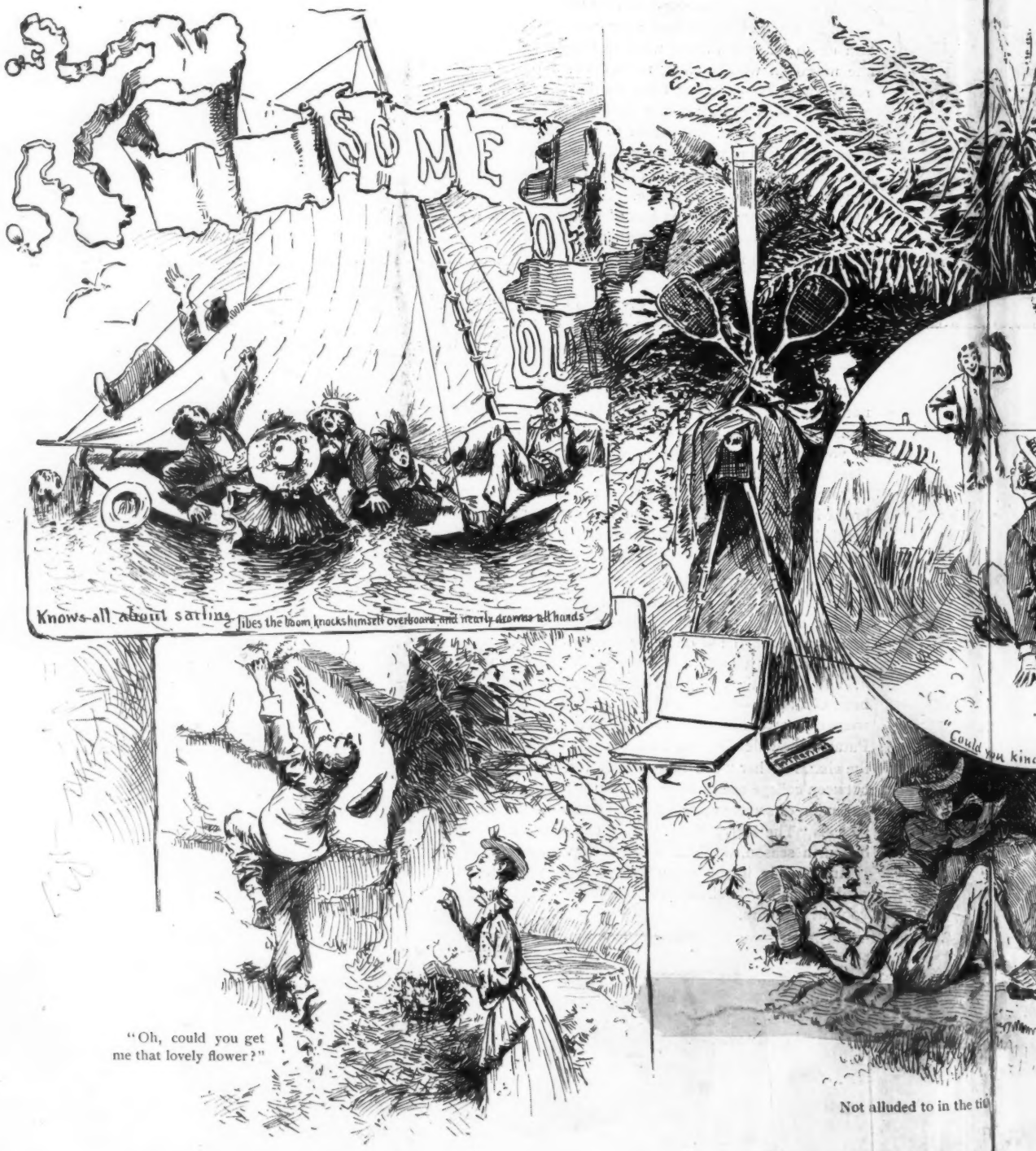
If you are epigrammatic you may find amusement in the aphorisms of "Blots and Blemishes," which warn you tersely against most of the evils of life—"from those that tramp their way through life on other people's corns," "from fellows who find it easy to kick a man that is down, and—do it," and "from the root of all evil—too much money, and the bane of all bliss—too little of it." If you are a very young woman you will like "A Woodland Wooing," which Eleanor Putnam (now dead) wrote in the bright, clear style that was the charm of her "Old Salem." If you are a young man, between college and matrimony, you will like Mr. Pierson's collection of society verse by many American writers, which he calls "The Merry Muse." A young woman, in her third or fourth season, would also like these verses.

And, finally, if you are a wise man or woman, you will read just as few books as possible while sky and trees invite you out of doors.

Droch.

AN INTERRUPTION.





"Oh, could you get me that lovely flower?"

Not alluded to in the ti

The man who has been told that he dances well.

You are pressed into the service of the enthusiastic amateur whose sketches you have never admired.

The man who insists on just one more set.

SUMMER WISDOM.

IN these days when old Sol his long poker brings,
And the doors of his furnace unlatches,
Of his purse the fond sire will loosen the strings,
While his flock to cool spots he dispatches.
The process quite dry his exchequer oft wrings,
But he wishes his girls to make catches,
So sends them—if wise—to the White Sulphur Springs,
For you know they use sulphur for matches.

HEROINE FOR A NOVEL.

MRS. BRIGHT: Oh, Mr. Kowells, I know a young woman whom I am sure you would put into one of your novels if you should meet her. Shall I introduce you.

MR. KOWELLS (*great American novelist*): A thousand thanks, yes. What are her characteristics?

MRS. BRIGHT: Characteristics? Why, she hasn't any.

"WHAT ARE YOU DIGGING, DEAR?"

"I'M GOIN' TO PLANT MASHED POTATOES. I LIKE 'EM BETTER THAN THE OTHER SORT."

"I MARRIED FOR LOVE, DICK, AND I'VE HAD ABOUT ENOUGH OF IT! WHAT DID YOU MARRY FOR?"

"WELL, YE SEE, I'M AN ARTIST; I MARRIED JENNY FOR HER FIGURE."

"THAT'S ONLY NATURAL."

"NO, BY GEORGE, 'TWASN'T NATURAL! MOSTLY ART."

A BIRD IN THE HAND.

SOLOMON RUBENSTEIN (*in deep distress*): I expect, fader, ve vas better sent for some ohf dose Elixir ohf Live, ain't it?

JACOB RUBENSTEIN (*very low*): Vat vos you dinkin' ohf, Solomon? Did you vants me to loss mine insurances?

MOULDY-LOOKING INDIVIDUAL (*to London police officer*): Yes, sir, I've decided to give myself up. I'm Jack the Ripper, and I ——

POLICE OFFICER: Sorry, but we can't accommodate you, as we are overcrowded. There are seven more "Jack the Rippers" downstairs, and you'll have to roost somewhere else to-night.

REV. PRIMROSE: The tide waits for no man, my young friend.

MERRITT: So they say. Still, when one lies down on the sands, it seems to wait till he's asleep.

IN the almanac, and in fact, August is especially the month of The Girl. Then the mermaid flees to her sea-caves and the mountain nymph seeks the remotest valleys. Every thing is left to The Girl, and from Cape May to Bar Harbor her little shrieks are heard along the sands, and from Pemigewasset to Manochunk her laughter wakes the mountain echoes. Then ungainly man, let him bedeck himself as he will in sash and blazer, is only a background or a contrast, to bring into higher relief the grace and picturesqueness of The Girl. He may have his uses as a caramel-buyer or a snake-killer, but in August all the world of nature and mankind yields to the capricious rule of The Girl.

* * *

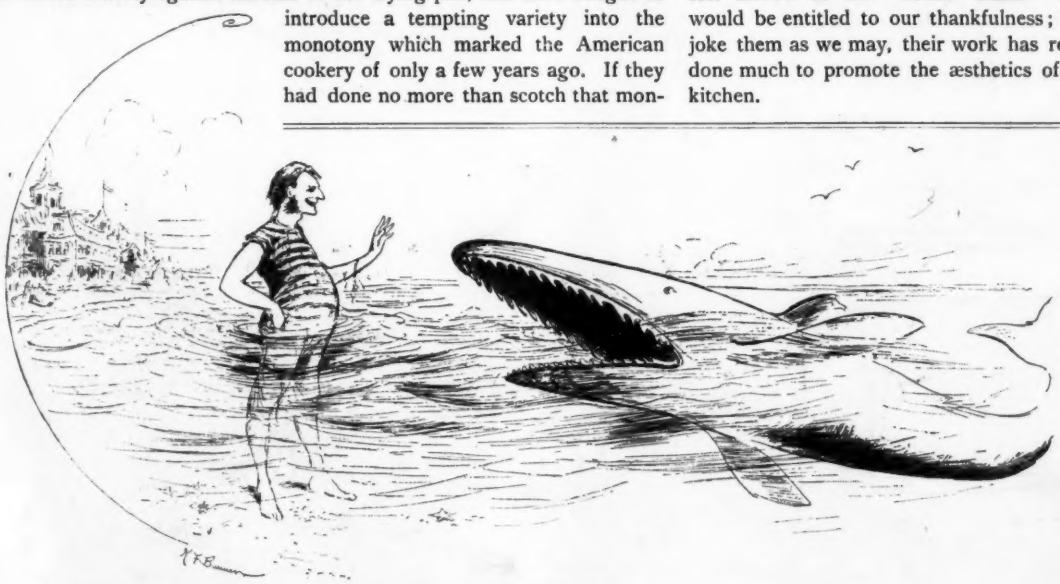
Sir William Jenner has advised the queen to give up champagne and claret for the present, and to drink whisky and Apollinaris water.—*Truth*, London, July 11, 1889.

THIS is sad news, and it looks to us like the last downward step of a tottering dynasty. From champagne to whisky is an appalling plunge. From what we have heard of the lady's financial instincts, it seems possible that the difference in price between the two beverages may have induced her to instruct Dr. Jenner as to what advice would be acceptable.

* * *

MISS JULIET CORSON, of cooking-school fame, is a hopeless invalid, confined permanently to her room. This fact will doubtless be an inspiration to those paragraphers who make a specialty of cooking-school jests, but it remains that to Miss Corson and her fellow-workers in the same field the American stomach owes a considerable debt of gratitude. They have warred bravely against the rule of the frying-pan, and have sought to introduce a tempting variety into the monotony which marked the American cookery of only a few years ago. If they had done no more than scotch that monster known as the "boiled dinner" they would be entitled to our thankfulness; but, joke them as we may, their work has really done much to promote the æsthetics of the kitchen.

Young Chappie Hardup: I CAN'T AFFORD TO GO TO THE SEA-SHORE, BUT IT'S NO USE DENYING MYSELF THE PLEASURE OF A BLISTERED NOSE WHEN I HAVE SUCH A POWERFUL BURNING-GLASS.



Self-possessed Bather: WHY, MY GOOD FELLOW, YOU MUSTN'T BITE ME!
Hungry Shark: WHY NOT?
Self-possessed Bather: WHY, I'M THE PROPRIETOR OF THE SKINNEM & FLEECEM SEASIDE PALACE HOTEL AND COTTAGES—DON'T-CHER-KNOW—PROFESSIONAL COURTESIES, HA! HA!

COMEDY OF LOVE.

ACT I, SCENE I.

A GLADE, some shade,
A man,
A maid,
A pout, some doubt,
Misunderstood.

SCENE II.

Tear shedding.

ACT II, SCENE I.

Same glade, more shade,
Same man,
Same maid,
A kiss, some bliss,
Miss understood.

SCENE II.

A wedding.

[CURTAIN.]

Morgan MacKnight.

IT is a mistake to suppose that worth makes the man. Worth makes the woman; Poole makes the man.

"NOW THEN YOUNG FELLER, YER WANT 'ER HAND OUT YER POCKET BOOK AN' WATCH PURTY QUICK 'ER I'LL BLOW THE WHOLE TOP OF YER HEAD OFF. DO YER SEE?"

"WELL, MY FRIEND, I JUDGE YOU ARE NOT AWARE THAT I HAVE BEEN A BASEBALL UMPIRE FOR THREE YEA——"

"FOR HEVVINS SAKE, PARD, LEMME GO THIS TIME! I WAS ONLY A JOKIN. I DIDN'T WANT YER WATCH?"

FROM THE (S)HADES.

His Majesty: WELL, MR. DE BEAN, WHAT IS IT NOW?
Mr. De Bean (from Boston): I CARN'T SLEEP, YOU KEEP THE PLACE SO BEASTLY HOT!

IT is stated that our naval force at Samoa "consists of one Admiral, two officers and five men." The Navy Department should send on two more officers, so that in case of mutiny the forces will be equally divided.

TAIL-BEARERS.—Our ancestors.

Miss Biffins (preparing for the surf): W'AT'S DE USE OB GOIN' TO DE EXPENSE OB STOCKIN'S W'EN YO' BRUDER HAB SUCH ARTISTIC ERBILITY AS DAT?

AVT SCISSORS AVT NVLLVS

BROWN (*to Jones whom he has observed to shiver*): Don't you know, Jones, there is an old saying that if you shiver it is a sign that some one is walking over your future grave?

JONES: Is that so? Well, he is liable to burn his feet if he keeps at it, for I have arranged to be cremated.—*Siftings.*

MR. KIRBY STONE (*just down from town*): And are you enjoying your camping experience, Miss Gusherton?

MISS G. (*ecstatically*): Oh, *ever* so much! Everything is so lovely and disagreeable, you know!—*Grip.*

"YOUR husband looks like a man of great self-control," remarked Mrs. Gadd to Mrs. Gabb.

"Well, he hadn't much when I married him," replied Mrs. Gabb, "but," she added, with a cold-steel look in her grey eye, "he's getting it."—*Exchange.*

UMPIRE: Three balls!

MR. MOSENSTEIN: Hey, Ikey! Hear dat vot he said den?

IKEY: Keep still, vader. You is givin yourself away.—*Time.*

MRS. MACTAVISH: Then ye'll be doon tae see us on the Sawbeth?

MR. MACTARTAN: I wull, if I'm spared.

MRS. MACT.: Oh, aye; gin ye're deed, we'll no expeck ye.—*Grip.*

"AND I want it to say, 'To my husband,' in an appropriate place," said the widow in conclusion to Slab, the gravestone man.

"Yessum," said Slab.

And the inscription went on;

TO MY HUSBAND.

In an appropriate place.—*Chicago Liar.*

FIRST NEWSPAPER MAN: Did you do any literary work on your voyage across?

SECOND NEWSPAPER MAN: Yes, I contributed extensively to the *Atlantic.*—*Peck's Sun.*

"WILL you eat a philopœna with me, Miss Emily?"

"What if I lose?

"Then I win a kiss."

"And if I win?"

"Then I have to kiss you."

LIEUTENANT OF HUSSARS: *Caramba!* I can't, for the life of me, remember just now whether I was to meet Catherine in Theresa Street, or Theresa in Catherine Street!—*Il Carlino.*

"WE are having a great time here," remarked a citizen in a country town to a Chicago traveler. "You struck this town just at the right time."

"What's going on?"

"We've got a big revival. Two of the best preachers in the country—one a Methodist and the other a Presbyterian. They've been preaching for three days."

"Is that so?" returned the traveler absent-mindedly. "What's the score?"

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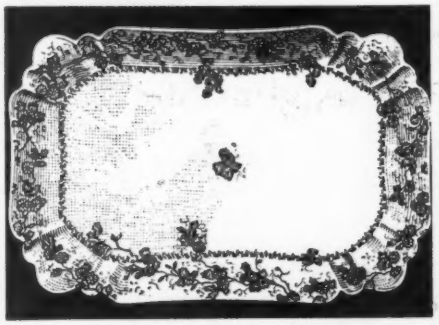

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AN agent who had made a study of human nature stopped at a gate on Second avenue the other day and asked of a small boy digging plantains out of the grass:

"Bub, is your mother home?"

"Yes, sir."

"Changed hired girls within a week?"

"No, sir."

"House cleaning all done?"

"Yes, sir."

"Got her new spring bonnet?"

"She has."

"Children well?"

"Yes, sir."

"Father go away good-natured this morning?"

"He did."

"Then I guess I'll ring the bell and try to sell her a picture."

She took two, and asked him to call in a day or two with a $7 family Bible.—*Detroit Free Press.*

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Sal: I WENT TO CHURCH.
Wicked Suitor: WELL, THAT'S WHAT I MEANT.

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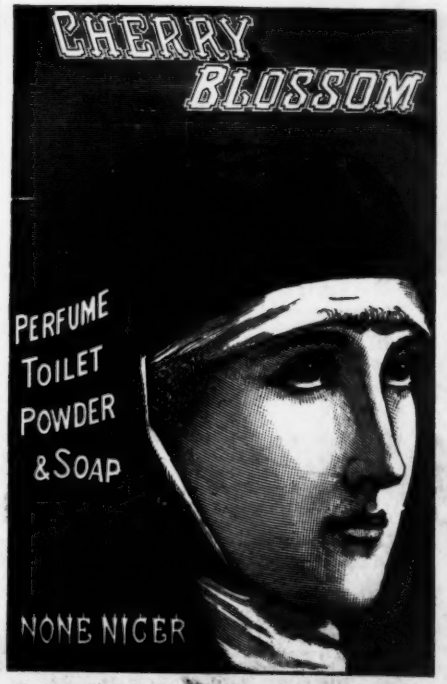

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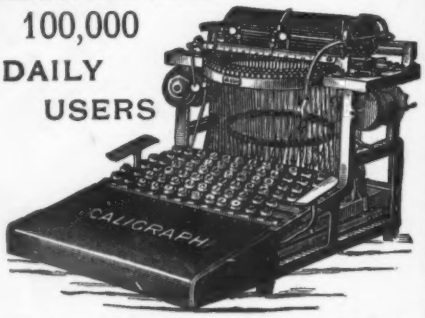

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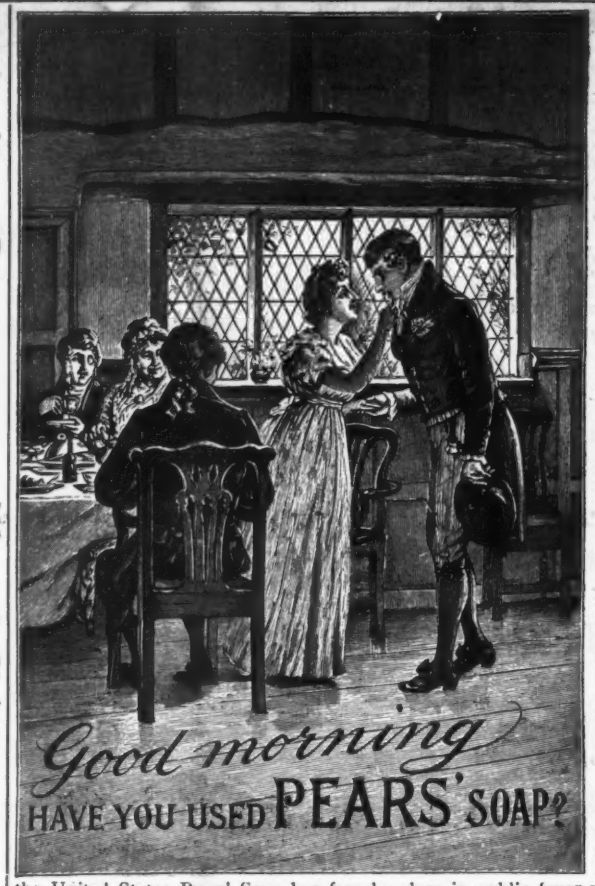

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